

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. The application has been amended as follows:

SC 6/27/00
Claim 15, line 6, insert ⁷ --where-- following "state".

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 12, 13, 16, 17, 19 and 33 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Specification

3. The lengthy specification has not been checked to the extent necessary to determine the presence of all possible minor errors. Applicant's cooperation is requested in correcting any errors of which applicant may become aware in the specification.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 25, 36, 39 and 40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 (b) as being anticipated by Fawcett et al. (5,678,002).

As in claim 25 and 39, Fawcett discloses a method (and computer-readable medium carrying a program to perform the method (claim 15)) of serving an inspection program for an